

01 DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY

026 BOARD OF PESTICIDES CONTROL

Chapter 34: CERTIFICATION AND LICENSING PROVISIONS/PESTICIDE DEALERS

SUMMARY: These regulations describe the requirements for certification and licensing of pesticide dealers.

Section 1. Competency Standards for Certification

No person shall be certified as a pesticide dealer unless that person has demonstrated knowledge of pesticide classifications, formulations, labeling, safety, storage and applicable laws and regulations. Also required shall be knowledge of current methodology and technology for the control of pesticide drift to non-target areas, the proper meteorological conditions for the application of pesticides, and the potential adverse effect of pesticides on plants, animals or humans.

Section 2. Certification Procedures for Pesticide Dealers

A. Initial Certification

1. **Application for Exam.** All persons desiring to take the exam must request an application from the Board's office and submit all required information and fees.
 - a. Information shall include name, home address, Social Security number, name and telephone number of company and company address.
 - b. A fee of \$10.00 for the exam shall accompany the application.
2. **Appointment for Exam**
 - a. ~~Upon receipt of an application the staff shall schedule an exam date and notify the applicant. If the scheduled date is not convenient for the applicant, it shall be the responsibility of the applicant to contact the Board's office to arrange a more convenient time to take the exams. Exams will be scheduled by Board staff. It is the responsibility of the applicant to reschedule if necessary.~~
 - b. All exam fees shall be forfeited if an applicant fails to notify the Board that he/she cannot sit for the exam on the scheduled date at least 24 hours in advance of the scheduled exam. Re-application shall require an additional \$15.00 fee.

- c. Exams will be available year-round on an appointment basis at the Board's office in Augusta.
 - d. Exams may also be offered at other locations designated by the Board staff. Appointments for these exams should be arranged by application with the Board's office in Augusta.
- 3. Study materials for the dealer exam are available through the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Pest Management Office for a fee.
- 4. **Examinations.** All applicants shall complete the closed book dealer exam covering subjects specified in Section 1.
- 5. **Examination Procedure.** All applicants shall comply with these rules or forfeit their opportunity to complete the exam at a specified appointment.
 - a. Applicants should be present and ready to take the exam at the appointed time.
 - b. Applicants shall not talk during the examination period.
 - c. Applicants shall not be allowed to bring any books or papers into the examining room. Pencils and work sheets will be provided and all papers shall be collected at the end of the period.
 - d. Applicants shall not make notes of the exam and shall not leave the table during an exam unless authorized by the staff.
- 6. **Qualification.** An applicant desiring to qualify for dealer certification must achieve a passing score of 80 percent.
 - a. An applicant who fails the exam may not re-apply to take the examination prior to ~~14~~ 6 days after the date of such examination. If an applicant fails again the applicant must wait ~~30~~ 6 days before retesting.
 - b. Any applicant who violates any of the rules pertaining to examinations shall wait a minimum of 60 days before retesting.
- 7. **Expiration.** Certification under this section will expire on December 31st of the ~~fifth~~ third year after the date of successful completion of the exam and on December 31st of every ~~fifth~~ third year thereafter unless a special restricted certification period is assigned by the Board or Board staff.

B. **Recertification**

- 1. Any person with current valid certification may renew that certification by accumulating ~~15~~ 9 recertification credits during the certification period described in Section 2(A)7.

2. Recertification credits will be available through Board-approved meetings including but not limited to industry and trade organization seminars, workshops where pesticide topics are presented and approved home study courses.
3. Credit will be allowed for topics including but not limited to:
 - a. Applicable laws and regulations,
 - b. Label review,
 - c. Pesticide formulations,
 - d. Applicator safety,
 - e. Storage and disposal,
 - f. Pest identification control,
 - g. Integrated pest management.
4. Persons organizing meetings for which they want credits awarded must contact the Board in writing at least 15 days in advance of the meeting and submit details of the pesticide topics, including titles and length of time devoted to them. Board staff will review program agendas and assign credit values. Board staff will monitor programs as time permits.
5. A minimum credit of one hour shall be assigned for each one hour of presentation on appropriate topics.
6. An individual who conducts a meeting for which the Board does assign recertification credits will be eligible for two credits for each one hour of presentation on appropriate topics.
7. For in state programs, ~~each participant will complete a form to verify attendance at each program for which credit is allowed at the site. applicants must submit verification of attendance at approved programs to the Board.~~ For out of state programs, applicants must notify the Board about attendance and send a registration receipt or other proof of attendance a copy of the agenda or other description of the presentations attended. The agenda must show the length of each presentation and describe what was covered. submit verification of attendance; they may also be asked to provide documentation such as an agenda or descriptions of the presentations attended.
8. A person who fails to accumulate the necessary credits will have to re-apply to ~~take~~ re-take and pass the exam required for initial certification.

Section 4. Licensing

- A. **Application.** Application for a pesticide dealer license shall be on forms provided by the Board.
- B. **Fee.** At the time of application, the applicant must tender the appropriate fee as follows:
 - 1. For a pesticide dealer license - ~~\$20.00~~ \$60.00 per person.
 - 2. For replacement or alteration - \$5.00.
- C. **Reports.** All required reports described in Chapter 50 must have been submitted in proper form before a license will be processed.
- D. **Expiration.** All licenses will expire at the end of the certification period as determined in Section 2 A 7. ~~at the end of each calendar year.~~

Section 5. Special Dealer Requirements

- A. Each dealer shall be responsible for the acts of those people in his/her employ and the dealer's license shall be subject to denial, suspension or revocation for any violation of the statute or regulations, whether committed by the dealer, his/her office, agent, employee, or other person acting in concert or participation with him/her.
- B. A licensed dealer must be present in the outlet at the time of sale of a restricted use pesticide so that she/he may supervise the transaction.
- C. Restricted-use and limited-use pesticides shall be stored separately in an area not accessible for self service.
- D. No dealer shall sell any restricted-use pesticides to any person who does not have in his/her possession a valid license.
- E. No dealer shall sell any limited-use pesticides to any person who does not have in his/her possession a valid license and limited-use permit.
- F. Dealers shall either maintain a record of restricted sales pursuant to Chapter 50, "Record Keeping and Reporting Requirements".

Section 6. Transition

For the purposes of converting from one year licenses and five year certification periods to three year licenses with concurrent three year certification periods, and to ensure that license expirations are evenly distributed across any three year period, the Board may initially issue one, two, or three year licenses with corresponding certification periods. Licensees must obtain a proportional number of recertification credits per year during the transition period. License fees will also be prorated in accordance with the length of the license term. The length of the initial license terms will be assigned by the Board when an existing license is renewed, based on the applicant's last name.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 22 M.R.S.A. §1471-D

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